

## **Background Notes on Austria's ODA**

In 2013, Austria contributed US\$ 1.2 billion in official development assistance (ODA). It was the 18<sup>th</sup> largest amount provided by any of the 28 Development Assistance Committee (DAC) countries.

Austria's aid flows as a percentage of GNI remained steady at just 0.28% in 2013, the same as in the previous year. This is near the lowest proportion disbursed by Austria since 2005, when the country provided 0.52% of its GNI as ODA. Austria's ODA disbursement remains well below the United Nations target of 0.7% of donor GNI.

Austria's ODA to LDCs dropped for the second consecutive year in 2012 to US\$ 243.6 million, or 0.06% of GNI. This is below the country's historical average and the lowest amount since 2005. It is just half of the peak reached just two years prior. Austria's ODA disbursement to LDC countries also remains well below the United Nations target range of between 0.15% and 0.20% of donor GNI to this group of countries.

In addition, progress towards untying aid has fallen below the DAC peer group. The share of Austria's ODA to LDCs that is not tied to the donor Government (untied aid) has fallen considerably from a peak of 89% in 2006 to just 37% in 2012. This is well below the DAC's average of 83%.

Austria's government budget registered a deficit of 1.5% of GDP in 2013, but is estimated to deteriorate to 3.0% of GDP in 2014, mainly because of the government's bailout to commercial banks. Austria's government debt stood at 74.5% of GDP in 2013, lower than the average of 95% of GDP for the euro area.